

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, paragraph [31] is objected to based on the reasons set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. Applicant amends paragraph [31], as indicated herein, and Applicant believes that this amendment obviates the Examiner's objection to the specification.

Claims 1 and 5 are objected to based on the reasons set forth on pages 2-3 of the present Office Action. Applicant believes that the Examiner's objections to claims 1 and 5 are obviated. Applicant respectfully submits that it is not believed that "interface" needs to be inserted between "identifying" and "addresses" in claim 5.

Claims 1-6 are all the claims pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 2 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly claiming the same invention as that of claims 1 and 2 of copending application no. 10/664,028 (Our Ref No. Q76745; Your Ref. No. SH-18359-US). Claims 1-3 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly claiming the same invention as that of claims 3-5 of copending application No. 10/746,234 (Our Ref No. Q79034; Your Ref. No. SH-18568-US). Claim 5 is provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claim 4 of copending application No. 10/664,028. Claims 1 and 2 are provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1 and 2 of copending application No. 10/746,234. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Hinden et al. (RFC 2373 "IP Version 6 addressing Architecture"), hereinafter referred to as Hinden.

§101 Rejections (Double Patenting) - Claims 1 and 2

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under the double patenting rejection based on the reasons set forth on page 3 of the Office Action.

Applicant submits that claims 1 and 2 of the present application are NOT the same as claims 1 and 2 of co-pending application No. 10/664,028. For example, claim 1 of the present application recites, in part, “excluding a bit area used as a company ID area of an interface ID area,” while, on the other hand, claim 1 of co-pending application No. 10/664,028 recites, in part, “excluding a company ID area and a serial number area of an interface ID area.” At least based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 over claims 1 and 2 of application no. 10/664,028.

§101 Rejections (Double Patenting) - Claims 1-3

Similar to above, Applicant submits that claims 1-3 of the present application are NOT the same as claims 3-5 of co-pending application No. 10/746,234. For example, claim 1 of the present application recites, in part, “excluding a bit area used as a company ID area of an interface ID area,” while, on the other hand, claim 1 of application No. 10/746,234 recites, in part, “other than a bit area provided for specific purposes.” Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 over claims 3-5 of application no. 10/746,234.

Non-Statutory Obviousness-type Double Patenting Rejections - Claim 5

Claim 5 is provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting based on claim 4 of application no. 10/664,028.

Applicant submits that claim 4 of Application No. 10/664,028 does not disclose or suggest at least, “where the interface ID area comprises a bit area and a device ID area for identifying types of the devices, excluding the bit area,” as recited in claim 5 of the present application.

Non-Statutory Obviousness-type Double Patenting Rejections - Claims 1 and 2

Applicant submits claims 1 and 2 of Application No. 10/746,234 do not disclose or suggest at least, “identifying the devices using device ID information for identifying types of the devices recorded in an unused area,” as recited in claims 1 and 2 of the present application. Specifically, there is no teaching or suggestion of identifying the types of the devices.

§101 Rejections (Non-Statutory Subject Matter) - Claims 1-6

Applicant submits that claims 1-6 satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 101.

§102(b) Rejections (Hinden) - Claims 1-6

Claims 1-6 are rejected based on the reasons set forth on pages 7-9 of the present Office Action. Applicant traverses these rejections at least based on the following reasons.

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant submits that Hinden does not disclose or suggest at least, “identifying the devices using device ID information for identifying types of the devices recorded in an unused area, excluding a bit area used as a company ID area of an interface ID area, using an EUI-64 ID format,” as recited in claim 1. The Examiner cites page 19, and the first figure on said page as allegedly satisfying the above-quoted feature of claim 1. In describing the cited portion of Hinden, the Examiner states that the last 40 bits are marked with an “m” which is a manufacturer selected extension identifier that the manufacturer can use to identify a specific device. In response, Applicant submits that the Examiner has utilized

impermissible hindsight reasoning in determining that Hinden discloses or suggests identifying devices using device ID information for identifying the types of devices. Bits that identify companies and manufacturers do not necessarily include the identification of types of devices. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that Hinden does not anticipate claim 1. Applicant submits that independent claim 5 is patentable at least based on reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 1.

Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-4 and 6 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies from independent claims 1 and 5.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

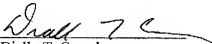
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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Diallo T. Crenshaw
Registration No. 52,778